cussed in the House in August 1993 and these are being taken into account while finaliging the matter. The signing while finalising the matter. The signing of GATT should not have any effect on prices of drugs already being produced in the country.

Semi-Synthetic Penicillin

1368. SHRI ANANT RAM JAISWAL: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is also a fact that domestic price of Penicillin G an intermediate required for the production of semi-synthethetic penicillins, is notified and the weighted average price of local production and imports is taken into consideration in working out the prices of semi-synthetic Penicillines;

(b) on what basis the price of Rifampicin has been worked out and what weighted average price of Rifa-S has been taken in the absence of any fixed price for domestic production;

(c) whether it is a fact that such a situation has been allowed to prevail by the BICP to benefit few producers of this drug;

(d) what steps have been taken to inquire into the matter; and

(e) when was the cost study of this drug last conducted by BICP, upto what period was it valid and why fresh study has not been conducted thereafter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The price of bulk drug Rifampicin is based on the weighted average cost of indigenous and imported drug intermediates *viz.* Rifa S and 3-Formyl Rifa SV. The price of indigenously produced drug intermediate Rifa-S has been adopted as Rs. 4100 per kg.

(e) The cost study conducted by BICP in 1991-92 was valid upto 31st March, 1994. Fresh study has already been initiated by BICP.

Prices of Cemitidine, Glipizide and other drugs

1369. SHRI JAGIR SINGH DARD: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleastd to state:

(a) what is the price of Cemitidine, Povidine Iodine, Glipizide, Verapamil and Doxycycline on which the formulation prices are based at present and when were they last fixed;

(b) whether it is a fact that BICP has failed to cost study these drugs, if so, the reasons thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that the producer took advantage of Government lapses and made huge benefits; and

(d) if so, what steps have been taken to bring down the prices of these medicines?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (d) To the extent information is available. Cemitidine and Verapamil are not being manufactured indigenously and their demand is met through imports. For the bulk drugs Povidine Ioddine and Glipizide, their indigenous manufacturers are exempt from price control in accordance with the provision of the DPCO. The price of Rs. 5416/- per kg. for Doxycyline was notified on 20-8-92. BICP has completed the study for the revision of the price of Doxycyline and its recommendations were received on 25th July, 1994.